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Message Text

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ORIGIN EB-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 L-02 AID-05 CEA-01

CIAE-00 COME-00 EA-06 FRB-01 INR-07 NEA-09 NSAE-00

RSC-01 OPIC-03 SP-02 TRSE-00 CIEP-01 LAB-04 SIL-01

OMB-01 /080 R

DRAFTED BY EB/IFD/OIA:CNELLIS
APPROVED BY EB/ EB/IFD/OIA:RJSMITH
L:SMSCHWEBEL
ARA/LA/BC:JEKARKASHIAN
IO/CMD:WWWOODBURY
EUR/RPE:MLEVINE
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P R 102352Z JAN 75
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TO ALL OECD CAPITALS PRIORITY
USMISSION OECD PARIS PRIORITY
INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 006805

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: UN
CENTER ON MULTINATIONAL CORPORATIONS (NMCS)

1. IN NEAR FUTURE, UN SECGEN IS EXPECTED TO NAME DIRECTOR OF NEWLY ORGANIZED MNC INFORMATION AND RESEARCH CENTER WITHIN UN SECRETARIAT. SINCE UN UNDER SECRETARY GENERAL PHILIPPE DE SEYNES HAS INDICATED THAT HE IS NOT INTERESTED IN POST, ONLY ANNOUNCED CANDIDATE IS CHILEAN, JUAN SOMAVIA; WHO WAS A MEMBER OF PANEL OF EMINENT PERSONS STUDYING MNCS WHICH SECGEN NAMED AND WHOSE REPORT HAS LED TO ESTABLISHMENT OF THE CENTER AS WELL AS A SEPARATE INTER-GOVERNMENTAL UN COMMISSION ON MNCS . WHILE SERVING IN CONFIDENTIAL

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CHILEAN FOREIGN MINISTRY DURING LATTER PART OF FREI

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ADMINISTRATION AND AS ANDEAN GROUP OFFICIAL UNDER ALLENDE, SOMAVIA ALSO DEMONSTRATED A STRONG ANTI-U.S. BIAS. WE ALSO UNDERSTAND THAT SOMAVIA WAS ONE OF THE PRINCIPAL DRAFTERS OF THE EMINENT PERSONS REPORT WHICH SHOWS A DEFINITE BIAS AGAINST MNCS. WE HAVE INFORMED SECGEN THAT WE OPPOSE SOMAVIA FOR THIS KEY POST.

2. IN VIEW OF THIS SITUATION, WE BELIEVE IT IMPORTANT THAT ONE OR MORE ALTERNATIVE CANDIDATES BE PUT FORWARD PROMPTLY. OUR OBJECTIVE, OF COURSE, IS TO HAVE A DIRECTOR OF RECOGNIZED PROFESSIONAL ABILITY AND OBJEC-TIVITY, REGARDLESS OF NATIONALITY. WHILE IT MAY BE

POSSIBLE TO COME UP WITH SUCH A CANDIDATE FROM ONE OF THE LARGE INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES OR EVEN AN LDC, IT MIGHT BE EASIER TO GAIN GENERAL ACCEPTANCE OF A SUITABLE CANDIDATE FROM A COUNTRY WHICH IS NEITHER PREDOMINANTLY A CAPITAL IMPORTER OR EXPORTER. A SUITABLE PERSON FROM CANADA, AUSTRALIA OR NEW ZEALAND OR A SMALL EUROPEAN COUNTRY SUCH AS BELGIUM, DENMARK OR SWITZERLAND WOULD MEET THIS CRITERION.

3. AMONG THE PERSONS FROM SUCH COUNTRIES WHO HAVE BEEN MENTIONED HERE AS POSSIBILITIES ARE:

A) FROM CANADA: UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO PROFESSOR A. W. SAFARIAN; OUTGOING DEPUTY MINISTER OF INDUSTRY, TRADE AND COMMERCE, JAMES GRANDY; MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY (NEWFOUNDLAND) PROFESSOR GORDON GOUNDREY;

B) FROM AUSTRALIA: FOREIGN OFFICE CIVIL SERVANT RICHARD W BUTLER; AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL UNIVERSITY PROFESSOR DONALD T. BRASH;

C) FROM NEW ZEALAND: ASSISTANT CHIEF ECONOMIST NZ RESERVE BANK, RODERICK S. DEANE;

D) FROM DENMARK: INTERNATIONAL LAWYER AND PROFESSOR ISI FOIGHEL.

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4. DEPARTMENT REQUESTS ADDRESSEE POSTS TO DISCUSS THIS

MATTER WITH APPROPRIATE HOST GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS. IN DISCUSSING OUR OBJECTIONS TO SOMAVIA CANDIDACY , POSTS SHOULD MAKE CLEAR THAT OUR OBJECTIONS DO NOT STEM FROM HIS CONNECTION WITH FORMER CHILEAN REGIME, BUT HIS DEMONSTRATED LACK OF OBJECTIVITY ON MNC ISSUES. HOST GOVERNMENT AND EMBASSY VIEWS ON SUITABILITY AND AVAIL-

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ABILITY OF THESE OR OTHER POSSIBLE CANDIDATES WOULD BE
APPRECIATED. IF POSSIBLE REPLIES ARE REQUESTED BY
JANUARY 17. KISSINGER

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